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### SMELTING WORKS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

#### SECOND PAPER.

Continuing our reference, begun last week, to the subject of smelting works in British Columbia, taken from a paper by Mr. E. Jacobs in official Bulletin No. 19 of the Province, entitled, "Mining in British Columbia," we refer now to the smelters on the Pacific Coast of that Province.

It appears from a quotation made by Mr. Jacobs from the London, England, Mining Journal, on "British Columbia as a Source of Copper," that the cheapest smelting practice extant is in British Columbia. This journal quoted says so explicitly, and adds that the distinction of having established it applies to the Boundary smelters. They were thus successful largely because the ores they use are relatively self-fluxing. These are at Grand Forks, Greenwood and Boundary Falls. The first, on the north fork of Kettle River, belongs to the Granby Consolidated Company, and has treated since established in 1900 over 1,320,000 tons of ore. The bulk of the ore treated comes from the company's mines. The buildings are substantial, the equipment modern and complete. This is probably the largest smelting works in Canada.

The British Columbia Copper Company's smelting works at Greenwood were built in 1899-1900; the first furnace being blown in February, 1901, the second in 1902, capacity, 700 to 800 tons ore per day; a Bessemer plant has since been added. The Mother Lode mine furnishes most of the ore, and the company uses electric power from the Cascade station at Phoenix, five miles distant. The company is a New York organization.

Boundary Falls smelter blew in its first furnace June, 1902, its second May, 1903, each having a capacity of 300 tons. The works are driven by steam, and are immediately alongside the Columbia and

Western Railway. The works were closed down in December, 1903, to reopen the following summer.

The Coast smelters are described on pages 151 to 153; they are the Van Anda, the Crofton, and the Ladysmith. "The first smelter erected in the Coast section of British Columbia was that built at Vancouver, but this can hardly be regarded as having been seriously intended for the reduction of ores, as there was not a single mine in British Columbia at that time sufficiently developed to warrant it. In fact, lode mining was in its merest infancy, and, apparently, the lead mine at Field, which was never worked since, was depended upon for a supply of ore. The Field mine has almost been forgotten. The inside history of the smelter at Vancouver may never be written; but, whatever its real purpose, the fact remains that it was not long operated, if at all. It was supplied with a 75-ton lead stack which eventually, in 1900, was removed to Van Anda, Texada Island, and there altered and used for copper-ore smelting."

The first smelter built on the Coast was at Vancouver, when lode mining was in its infancy, and apparently the lead mine at Field was relied on to supply it with ore. It had a 75-ton lead stack, and was not operated long, if at all. In 1900 this stack was removed to Van Anda, on Texada Island, in the Strait of Georgia, about seventy miles north-west of Vancouver. Mr. Kiddie, formerly with the Orford Copper Co., New York, began in 1898 the construction of a furnace on that Island for the Van Anda Gold & Copper Company, which in 1899 had smelted 5,000 tons of ore. Next year the furnace from Vancouver was brought over, and 9,527 tons was smelted; in 1901 only 3,016 tons, and since that time the works have not been operated, Van Anda ore being treated at Vancouver.

The establishment at Crofton of the Northwestern Smelting and Refining Co., on the eastern shore of Vancouver Island, is a concern of very considerable size, and is in charge of experienced men. It treats